against the persons violating the Environment (Protection) Act, 1896 during the last three years; and

(b) what is the State-wise number of cases in which convictions have been awarded alongwith the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOERSTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) During this period prosecutions were launched against 8 industries which did not comply with the directions issued by the Central Government under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Out of these 4 cases related to Uttar Pradesh and 4 cases to West Bengal. No conviction has been awarded so far as all the cases are pending in the Court.

Effects of Aircraft Exhaust on Ozone Layer

495. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENIVRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report which appeared in the Times of India dated the 5th November to the effect that the aircraft fume is affecting the Ozone Layer if so what are the details in this regard and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Yes, Sir. It is well-known to the scientific community in India and abroad that aircraft fumes are likely to affect the ozone layer and the atmoshepre in general. There are indications that the exhaust from supersonic aircrafts which cruise at stratospheric levels could deplete the ozone layer in the stratosphere. However, aircraft flights over India or by Indian aircrafts are few compared to those in European and North American countries and no immediate action by India is required.

Pollution by Public Sector Units in the Capital

496. KUMARI ALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONEMNT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some public Sector Units in the Capital the not following the environmental laws by not installing pollution control devices in their units; and

(b) if so, what are the names of these units and action taken against the Public Sector Undertakings for not following the statutory provisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) M/s. Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation Limited is the Public Sector Unit which has not installed adequate pollution control devices. The unit has been directed by Delhi Administration to install install these by 31st December, 1991. M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. is currently not complying with the rules for hazardous waste disposal and have been directed to do so.

Deforestation in Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh

497. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large scale deforestation took place in Madhya Pradesh and Himachal during 1990;

(b) if so, what is the number of trees felled and the area laid bare during the year; and

(c) what are the steps taken by the Central Government to ensure that maximum number of trees are planted under the compulsory affore-